

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:490
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2000
DEADWOOD IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES
RAGHUNATH JHA; RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered the removal of deadwood in Government offices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) the number of Joint Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Secretaries in the age-group of 58-60 who are not pulling their weights but are a source of burden on the State exchequer alongwith details thereof;
- (d) whether any proposal to scan their records of service and to weed out the deadwoods;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the issue of downsize the Government have also discussed in Cabinet meeting recently; and (g) if so, the outcome of the said meeting?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSION AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. VASUN RAJE)

(a): The observations made by the Hon'ble Supreme Court are in the context of a Judicial Service Officer of a State Government and that Court, while dismissing the Petition filed by Shri Ramesh Chandra Acharya, Civil Judge, Government of Orissa, against his compulsory retirement, has observed that only such persons who can render useful service be continued and not the indolent, infirm and those of doubtful integrity, reputation or utility. Periodical exercise of reviewing or evaluating the utility is required for better administration and for removal of dead wood or persons having doubtful integrity and reputation.

(b): The existing Government instructions provide for review of service rendered by a Government servant after completion of 30 years of qualifying service or attaining the age of 50 years whichever is earlier and the norms observed by the Supreme Court are on the similar lines.

(c), (d) & (e): Rule 16(3) of the All India Service (DCRB) Rules, 1958 and Fundamental Rule 56 (j) and Rule 48 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 permit the Central Government to retire a government servant in public interest from service on the date on which such Government servant completes 30 years of qualifying service or attains 50 years of age or on any date thereafter to be specified in the notice. In terms of these Rules, a review is conducted on such Government servant to adjudge whether he is fit or unfit to be retained in Government service.

(f) & (g): No decision has been taken by the Government in the matter.